



Date: April 29, 2005  
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### **Environmental Assessment Available for Comment**

The Bureau of Land Management Billings Field Office is asking the public to review and comment on an environmental assessment (EA) of activities planned for the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range. The BLM plans to continue fertility control on wild horse mares this summer.

Fertility control research began on the Pryor herd in 2001 and has continued every year since then. In 2005, the BLM proposes to apply a fertility control (Porcine Zona Pellucida or PZP) vaccine to 20 age-specific older wild mares, for the purposes of suppressing herd growth rates in order to manage for healthy horses on healthy rangelands.

The proposed fertility control implementation is scheduled to begin no earlier than July 15, 2005, and will continue until all selected mares have received a booster vaccine conferring one year of infertility. Any subsequent fertility control efforts, involving age classes of horses not identified in this EA, will be covered by additional National Environmental Policy Act documents.

Comments on the EA must be submitted in writing, with original signatures, and be postmarked by June 10, 2005, to: Bureau of Land Management, Billings Field Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101. Copies of the EA can be obtained from the Billings Field Office by calling 896-5013.

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